

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS, COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS**  
**IN ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR**

Please amend the following claims as indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) An intermediate A thermoplastic resin sheet having a laminated structure including a first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and a second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), characterized in that:

said first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) contains a plasticizer and a first polyvinyl acetal resin obtained via acetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (a) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 4-6 carbon atoms;

said second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) contains a plasticizer and a second polyvinyl acetal resin in the form of a coacetalized product obtained via coacetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (a) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 4-6 carbon atoms and with at least one aldehyde (b) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 1-3 carbon atoms; and

a polymer unit (X) and a polymer unit (Y), in total, account for at least 55% by mole while the first polymer unit (X) alone accounts for 0.5-80% by mole of the total of said coacetalized product, wherein the polymer unit (X) is an acetalized unit derived from the first aldehyde (a) and the polymer unit (Y) is an acetalized unit derived from the second aldehyde (b)

the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is generally in the range of 30-45 parts by weight, the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) is generally in the range of 10-40 parts by weight,

the plasticizer content (A)/plasticizer content (B) is in the range of 1.0-3, wherein the plasticizer content (A) is a plasticizer content of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and the plasticizer content (B) is a plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B).

2. (Currently Amended) An intermediate A-thermoplastic-resin-sheet having a laminated structure including a first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and a second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), characterized in that:

said first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) contains a plasticizer and a first polyvinyl acetal resin obtained via acetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (a) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 4-6 carbon atoms;

said second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) contains a plasticizer and a second polyvinyl acetal resin in the form of a coacetalized product obtained via coacetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (a) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 4-6 carbon atoms and at least one aldehyde (b) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 1-3 carbon atoms;

said thermoplastic resin sheet has such a structure that the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is provided on each side of at least one second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B); and,

in the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), a polymer unit (X) and a polymer unit (Y), in total, account for at least 55% by mole while the first polymer unit (X) alone accounts for 20-80% by mole of the total of the coacetalized product, wherein the polymer unit (X) is an acetalized unit derived from the first aldehyde (a) and the polymer unit (Y) is an acetalized unit derived from the second aldehyde (b).

the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is generally in the range of 30-45 parts by weight, the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) is generally in the range of 10-40 parts by weight,

the plasticizer content (A)/plasticizer content (B) is in the range of 1.0-3, wherein the plasticizer content (A) is a plasticizer content of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and the plasticizer content (B) is a plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B).

3. (Currently Amended) An intermediate A-thermoplastic-resin-sheet having a laminated structure including a first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and a second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), characterized in that:

said first polyvinyl acetal resin layer(A) contains a plasticizer and a first polyvinyl acetal resin obtained via acetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (a) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 4-6 carbon atoms;

said second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) contains a plasticizer and a second polyvinyl acetal resin in the form of a coacetalized product obtained via coacetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (a) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 4-6 carbon atoms and at least one aldehyde (b) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 1-3 carbon atoms;

said thermoplastic resin sheet has such a structure that the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is provided on each side of at least one second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B); and,

in the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), a polymer unit (X) and a polymer unit (Y), in total, account for at least 55% by mole while the first polymer unit (X) alone accounts for 0.5-20% by mole of the total of the coacetalized product, wherein the polymer unit (X) is an acetalized unit derived from the first aldehyde (a) and the polymer unit (Y) is an acetalized unit derived from the second aldehyde (b).

the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is generally in the range of 30-45 parts by weight, the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) is generally in the range of 10-40 parts by weight,

the plasticizer content (A)/plasticizer content (B) is in the range of 1.0-3, wherein the plasticizer content (A) is a plasticizer content of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and the plasticizer content (B) is a plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B).

4. (Currently Amended) An intermediate A thermoplastic-resin-sheet having a laminated structure including a first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and a second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), characterized in that:

said first polyvinyl acetal resin layer(A) contains a plasticizer and a first polyvinyl acetal resin obtained via acetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (a) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 4-6 carbon atoms;

said second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) contains a plasticizer and a second polyvinyl acetal resin obtained via acetalization of polyvinyl alcohol with at least one aldehyde (b) selected from the group consisting of aldehydes having 1-3 carbon atoms;

said thermoplastic resin sheet has such a structure that the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is provided on each side of at least one second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B); and

said second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) has a degree of acetalization of at least 55 mole %

the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is generally in the range of 30-45 parts by weight, the plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) is generally in the range of 10-40 parts by weight,

the plasticizer content (A)/plasticizer content (B) is in the range of 1.0-3, wherein the plasticizer content (A) is a plasticizer content of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and the plasticizer content (B) is a plasticizer content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B).

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that a molar ratio of the polymer unit (Y) to the polymer unit (X) in the coacetalized product constituting the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), polymer unit (Y)/polymer unit (X), does not exceed 3.5.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that a molar ratio of the polymer unit (Y) to the polymer unit (X) in the coacetalized product constituting the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B), polymer unit (Y)/polymer unit (X), does not exceed 200.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that:

a temperature  $t(A)$  at which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  measured at a frequency of 10 Hz for a sheet comprised solely of the polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) shows a maximum value is in the range of 20-50 °C.;

a temperature  $t(B)$  at which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  for a sheet comprised of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) shows a maximum value is in the range of 35-70 °C.; and  $t(B) - t(A)$  is in the range between 5 °C. and 40 °C.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that:

a temperature  $t(A)$  at which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  measured at a frequency of 10 Hz for a sheet comprised solely of the polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) shows a maximum value is in the range of 20-50 °C.;

a temperature  $t(B)$  at which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  for a sheet comprised of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) shows a maximum value is in the range of 40-65 °C.; and  $t(B) - t(A)$  is in the range between 5 °C. and 25 °C.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that an overlapping temperature region exists between a temperature range in which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  for a sheet comprised of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is at least 0.3 and a temperature range in which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  for a sheet comprised of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) is at least 0.3.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that an overlapping temperature region exists between a temperature range in which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  for a sheet comprised of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) is at least 0.5 and a temperature range in which a loss tangent  $\tan \delta$  for a sheet comprised of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) is at least 0.5.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that  $G'(B)/G'(A)$  is in the range of 1.0-10, wherein  $G'(A)$  is a shear storage modulus at 23 °C. at 10 Hz of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and  $G'(B)$  is a shear storage modulus at 23 °C. at 10 Hz of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B).

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that a ratio in tear strength of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) to the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A), tear strength (B)/tear strength (A), is at least 1.1 when measured according to JIS K 7128.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that tensile modulus (B)/tensile modulus (A) is at least 1.1, wherein the tensile modulus (B) is a tensile modulus of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) and the tensile modulus (A) is a tensile modulus of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) when both measured at 23 °C. at a tensile strain rate of 1,250 %/min.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that breaking energy (B)/breaking energy (A) is at least 1. 1, wherein the breaking energy (B) is a breaking energy of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) and the breaking energy (A) is a breaking energy of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) when both measured at 23 °C. at a tensile strain rate of 1,250 %/min.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that maximum point stress (B)/maximum point stress (A) is at least 1.0, wherein the maximum point stress (B) is a maximum point stress of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) and the maximum point stress (A) is a maximum point stress of the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) when both measured at 23 °C. at a tensile strain rate of 1,250 %/min.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin intermediate~~ sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that PVA polymerization degree (B)/PVA polymerization degree (A) is in the range of 0.5-3.0, wherein the PVA polymerization degree (B) is a degree of polymerization of polyvinyl alcohol for constituting the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) and the PVA

polymerization degree (A) is a degree of polymerization of polyvinyl alcohol for constituting the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A).

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 16, characterized in that PVA polymerization degree (B)/PVA polymerization degree (A) is in the range of 1.0-3.0.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that an ester group content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) does not exceed 40 % by mole.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that an ester group content of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) does not exceed 20 % by mole.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and/or the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) contains functional fine particles.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that the first polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A) and/or the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) contains a crosslinked polyvinyl acetal resin or comprises an intermolecularly crosslinked polyvinyl acetal resin.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that thickness (B)/thickness (A) is in the range of 0.5-10, wherein the thickness

(B) is a thickness of the second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) and the thickness (A) is a thickness of the first second polyvinyl acetal resin layer (A).

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~thermoplastic resin~~ intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that at least one polyvinyl acetal resin layer (B) is interposed between the polyvinyl acetal resin layers (A) having different thicknesses.

25. (Previously Presented) A laminate including at least one layer of the thermoplastic resin sheet as recited in claim 1.

26. (Original) The laminate as recited in claim 25, characterized in that said thermoplastic resin sheet is securely interposed between a glass plate and a transparent resin plate.

27. (Original) The laminate as recited in claim 26, characterized in that said transparent resin plate is composed of at least one selected from the group consisting of polycarbonates, acrylic resins, acrylic copolymer resins and polyesters.

28. (Original) The laminate as recited in claim 26, characterized in that said transparent resin plate is coated with a transparent elastomer.

29. (Previously Presented) The laminate as recited in claim 26, characterized in that said thermoplastic resin sheet is securely interposed between a pair of glass plates.

30. (Previously Presented) The laminate as recited in claim 25, characterized in that at least one of said glass plates is a colored transparent glass plate.

31. (Previously Presented) The laminate as recited in claim 25, characterized as having a surface density of not higher than  $12 \text{ kg/m}^2$ .



32. (New) The intermediate sheet as recited in claim 1, characterized in that the polyvinyl alcohol has an average degree of polymerization of 500–4,500.